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AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS

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MAYOR'S PROPOSAL

Debt, schools drive \$4M town budget hike

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

The mayor has submitted his fiscal 2017 budget for consideration by the Agawam City Council and hearings on the budget will begin early next month.

The council is currently scheduled to make a final decision on the budget on Monday, June 20, its final meeting before the next

fiscal year begins.

Mayor Richard Cohen submitted his full budget to the City Council last Thursday afternoon. Councilors will now have the opportunity to digest the budget and ask questions and make comments.

Currently, the council is scheduled to hold budget hearings on the first two Mondays in June. The council will be able to ask ques-

tions of the department heads and Cohen. The public will have an opportunity to weigh in on the budget on June 20.

The mayor is proposing a budget hike of nearly 5 percent in fiscal 2017, with an \$88,837,557 total spending package, up just over \$4 million from fiscal 2016, which ends June 30. The overall budget includes debt, capital spending and operations for the town and

school district.

The public schools will take up about 50 percent of the overall budget increase, with the School Committee recommending a \$44,466,460 budget. That is a \$2,030,036 increase from fiscal 2016. There is a \$1,335,064 increase in the operating budget, a lot of which covers wage and cost-of-living increases for school staff. The debt service is also going up

significantly, about \$624,000 compared to fiscal 2016.

Among other debt incurred, the school district will now be paying the debt on the athletic facility project that is improving all the major playing fields at Agawam High School. The project began early in the spring and is expected to be completed in August.

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Heroes' welcome



Cancer survivors are showered with bubbles by onlookers as they march in the ceremonial first lap to open the Relay for Life of Agawam at School Street Park on Friday. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK



Top left: Sue Cimmi, a five-year breast cancer survivor, gave an emotional and inspirational speech during opening ceremonies for the Relay on Friday night. Cimmi is a Springfield teacher. Bottom left: A Spiderman balloon guarded the entrance to the Relay's caregiver tent, and 2-year-old Debbie Berger of West Springfield couldn't resist giving the superhero a super hug. Right: Four-year-old Colin Berger of Agawam demonstrates the theme of this year's Relay, "Fight Like a Superhero," while visiting the caregiver tent. More photos from the Relay on page 10.

MAIN STREET

Signs to honor Purple Heart recipients

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Main Street will soon be adorned with signs honoring 15 area veterans who served the country in conflicts dating back as far as World War II, following a ceremony last Saturday morning to dedicate the new Purple Heart Trail highway signs.

John Hurley, who spent a tour of duty in the Vietnam War, said he was very honored to have been brought to Agawam by members of his family to be included on the sign.

"My family lives in Agawam and they will drive by that sign all the time," said Hurley, who received a Purple Heart for being wounded by a satchel charge. "It's an amazing honor that people will drive by these signs."

Hurley, who lives in Chicopee, said he comes through Agawam to visit family and will enjoy seeing the sign on Main Street, which

"Now we have this sign and it's forever and our family is here. We will be able to drive by and so will our future generations forever."

— Gail Hurley

is here. We will be able to drive by and so will our future generations forever."

Brian Willette, a member of the Western Massachusetts Chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, helped spearhead the campaign to have sponsored

PURPLE | page 6



Brian Willette leads the Purple Heart Trail dedication ceremony on Saturday. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



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Kate Curley, of Agawam, was honored at Fenway Park recently as Blood Donor of the Game. She is pictured with "Wally," the Red Sox mascot. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Red Cross blood donor honored at Fenway Park

Donating life-saving blood recently turned into an experience of a lifetime for Agawam resident Kate Curley. She was named Blood Donor of the Game and was honored on the field at Fenway Park prior to the Boston Red Sox game against the Houston Astros on May 14. Curley entered to win the chance to become Blood Donor of the Game after recently donating blood with the American Red Cross.

Together with the Boston Red Sox and

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, the Red Cross invites fans to enter to win after stepping up to the plate and volunteering to help patients in need.

All presenting donors at Red Cross blood drives or donation centers in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont will have the opportunity to enter to win the honor of becoming Blood Donor of the Game from now through the end of the 2016 regular baseball season. In

addition to winning two tickets to a game at historic Fenway Park, the Blood Donor of the Game will be presented with a commemorative souvenir and most will have the chance to take part in a special on-field experience prior to the start of the game.

The Blood Donor of the Game program is a unique way for the Red Cross to thank volunteer blood donors during the spring and especially during the summer months, when the need for donations is critical.

Town's Memorial Day observances next week

Memorial Day services in Agawam will begin Sunday, May 29, with a service at St. John the Evangelist Church, 833 Main St., at 10:30 a.m.

On Memorial Day itself, May 30, observances will include gatherings at 7 a.m., at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge, also known as the Strathmore Bridge, 40 Front St., West Springfield, with the West Springfield Veterans Council; 7:25 a.m., at American Legion Post 185, 478 Springfield St., Agawam; 7:40 a.m., at Springfield Street Cemetery, 141 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills; 8 a.m., at Clifford Granger School, 31 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills; 8:15 a.m., at South Westfield Street Cemetery; and 8:30 a.m., at Agawam Center Cemetery, 954 Main St.

The town's parade will begin Monday at 10 a.m. with the assembly point at Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main St. It will continue down Main Street to Veterans Green at Main and School streets, with a ceremony to follow.

Mayor to host eating contest at Food Fest

WEST SPRINGFIELD — Agawam Mayor Richard Cohen will be host the Kielbasa Eating Contest on Sunday afternoon, May 29, at the International Food Fest at the Eastern States Exposition, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield.

The International Food Fest, which opens at 4 p.m. Thursday, May 26, and runs for five days through Memorial Day,

celebrates culture from over 50 different nations by sharing various faiths, crafts, clothes, beers, wines and foods.

Cohen will judge the 3:45 eating contest on Sunday at the main outdoor stage. For a full list of events, musical acts, theme nights and open hours, visit KFestFoodFest.com. The festival includes professional fireworks displays every night.

ICNE assists Dress for Success program

Insurance Center of New England, a local and independent insurance agency based in Agawam, held a clothing drive over the month of April. The ICNE team came together and collected women's business attire as a donation for Dress for Success of Western Massachusetts. A truck full of clothing was dropped off at the Dress for Success Boutique at the

Eastfield Mall on Tuesday, May 17.

Dress for Success Western Mass. is a volunteer-run organization that offers long-lasting solutions that enable women to break the cycle of poverty. They empower and support women by providing education and business apparel to them so that they may secure employment.

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Red Cross in need of summer donors

The American Red Cross urges blood and platelet donors to choose their day to give and help ensure blood is available for patients all summer long during its annual summer awareness campaign, sponsored by Suburban Propane.

Blood drives will take place Friday, May 27, from noon to 6 p.m. at the Agawam Fire Department, 800 Main St., and Wednesday, June 1, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Agawam Corporate Center, 67 Hunt St.

"Many Americans will be celebrating the unofficial start to summer this Memorial Day weekend, but seasonal activities that bring joy to so many can also lead to a shortage of blood and platelet donations when regular donors become busy," said Donna M. Morrissey, director of national partnerships for the Red Cross Biomed-

ical Services. "Patients don't get a summer holiday from needing lifesaving blood and platelet donations and are counting on generous volunteers to help maintain a sufficient supply this summer."

To encourage donations around the Memorial Day holiday, those who come to give blood or platelets from May 27-31 will receive a Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last. The Red Cross relies on volunteer donors for the 14,000 blood donations needed every day to support patients at about 2,600 hospitals and transfusion centers nationwide. However, during the summer months of June, July and August, about two fewer donors schedule an appointment to give blood at each Red Cross blood drive than what patients need.

Congregational Church news, upcoming events

The public is invited to attend the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., "a place to call home — a people to call family." Worship service is at 10 a.m. Sunday mornings with a children's message, church school and fellowship and coffee hour following. Playgroup meets Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and is open to the public. It follows the Agawam public schools schedule. The last session for the season is Thursday, June 9.

Wednesday, June 1: 7 p.m., Prayer Time.

Thursday, June 2: 10 a.m., Healing Prayer in the Friendship Room every Thursday in June. All are welcome.

Sunday, June 5: 10 a.m., Family Communion Worship at School Street Park. No service on church property today. The Family Picnic will begin right after services at the park.

Wednesday, June 8: Deacons meeting.

Thursday, June 9: 9:30 a.m., last Playgroup; 10 a.m., Healing Prayer in the Friendship Room.

Sunday, June 12: Recognition Sunday Worship Service. Last church school for the season and coffee hour.

Monday, June 13: 6:30 p.m., Trustees meeting.

Wednesday, June 15: 7 p.m., Prayer Time with Pastor Greg.

Thursday, June 16: 10 a.m., Healing Prayer in the Friendship Room.

Saturday, June 18: Men's Ministry Meeting at Bobbie J's; Strawberry Supper

with servings at 4:45 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 with pre-paid ticket and \$18 at the door. Walk-ins are welcome. Tickets are available in the church office 8 a.m. to noon Monday – Friday.

Sunday, June 19: Worship service; Happy Father's Day. Scholarship presentations and coffee fellowship hour.

Monday, June 20: 4 p.m., Loaves & Fishes.

Thursday June 23: 10 a.m., Healing Prayer in the Friendship Room.

Friday, June 24: 9 a.m., Newsletter collations.

Sunday, June 26: Worship service, welcoming of new members and coffee hour.

Monday June 27: 6 p.m., Survivors Group meeting.

Tuesday June 28: 7 p.m., Council meeting.

Wednesday, June 29: 7 p.m., Let Us Gather meeting.

Thursday, June 30: 10 a.m., Healing Prayer in the Friendship Room.

Pastor Greg E. Dawson is available for prayer after the service. The church offers many programs, special family activities, trips, picnics and more. Newcomers are welcome and members of the community are invited to participate in all church events. For more information, call the church office at 413-786-7111, visit www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com or email office@agawamcong.com. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until noon.

Sign up for dog fashion show, parade

Heritage Woods Senior Living will host its first "Pooch-A-Palooza" dog fashion show and parade 1-3 p.m. Saturday, June 11, at 462 Main St., Agawam. Prizes will be awarded for best dressed, celebrity look alike and most adorable.

Pet photos, a 50-50 raffle and re-

freshments will be available. A portion of the money raised will be donated to Dakin Humane Society. All are welcome to enjoy the show or enter their dogs in the contest for a \$5 donation. Registration deadline is June 1.

For more information or to register your pooch, call 413-789-8365.

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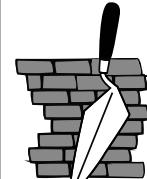
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Agawam High School students Troy Gallerani and Jillian Scherpa were among 91 students to be named McScholar Athletes at a ceremony held at the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield. From left, Linda Cohn, ESPN sportscaster, Gallerani, Scherpa, and George Gomez, McDonald's supervisor.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Gallerani, Scherpa named McScholar Athletes

SPRINGFIELD — Recently, the 20th Annual McScholar Athlete Awards was held at the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield to honor 91 high school student-athletes from the Western Massachusetts area. Among those honored were Agawam High School students Troy Gallerani and Jillian Scherpa.

A total of 91 students, the largest number of students in the program's history, were presented with the award. Linda Cohn, ESPN sportscaster, served as the event's keynote speaker. George Gomez, a McDonald's supervisor from Western Massachusetts, congratulated the athletes and welcomed the principals, parents, and

coaches who turned out to honor the accomplishments of the scholar-athletes. The students have successfully balanced participation in school sports, strong academic standing, community volunteerism, as well as numerous other activities.

The annual McScholar Athlete Awards program was founded by the local McDonald's owner-operators in Western Massachusetts. McDonald's created the McScholar Athlete program, which is the largest of its type in Western Massachusetts, working with local high school principals who nominate one male and one female student from their school each year.

Town GOP adopts statement of principles

The newly formed Agawam Republican Town Committee met on May 11 to begin implementing a new set of operating principles. The meeting was well attended and several attendees expressed interest in joining the committee. The topic of discussion was the creation of a mission statement, which outlines the structure and goals of the committee. By incorporating a clear understanding of what the committee stands for, the committee hopes to encourage fellow Republicans to seek additional information and attend future meetings. The members agreed to the following:

- That the Agawam Republican Town Committee is a town committee focused upon Agawam and Agawam issues.

- That its primary concern is local and that the committee takes positions on issues that affect the community and its citizens.

- The committee's primary focus is to

find, recruit and support fellow Republicans in running for public office, to encourage Republicans to apply for positions on Agawam boards, commissions and committees, and to actively support fellow Republicans in the pursuit of these positions.

- Support shall be taken to mean supporting candidates, assisting in fundraising activities and aiding in financial support when possible.

- That all positions taken in public shall reflect the Republican mission, values and policies, that political activities in support or in opposition be focused on issues absent personal attack and innuendo and maintain a civil discourse.

The committee welcomes anyone interested in learning more about its activities and purpose and encourages anyone interested in obtaining additional information to contact Bob Magovern, chairman, at neighbor12@aol.com.

Please recycle this newspaper

Opinion

OUR VIEW

Words of memory in a quiet field

On a quiet day in May, 102 years ago, a Canadian army doctor reflected on the carnage of war and wrote three stanzas of poetry. The images that set the scene are the everyday beauties of nature: poppies, larks, dawn and sunset. They throw into contrast the bloody tragedy of war, while at the same time serving as a farewell and appreciation for those who bravely fought for victory.

Today, this poem is recited annually throughout the English-speaking world, and in many towns of the United States forms a part of Memorial Day observances. John McCrae's "In Flanders Fields" is as poignant today as when he wrote it on May 3, 1915:

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

McCrae's "Flanders fields" was Ypres, a major battlefield of the First World War. It was, unfortunately, not the last field of crosses, row on row. We added a few more, including some in Flanders and elsewhere in Europe, a generation later in World War II. Almost every region of the Earth has seen war in the past 102 years; for Americans, failing hands by the thousands threw the torch to their brother and sister soldiers in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan. They, too, once loved and were loved.

Perhaps on Monday you'll stand in a field of crosses, decorating graves or placing a memorial wreath. Think of the lives represented by each marker: Those who lived a full life, and those who gave up a portion of theirs so that the others could live — those who threw the torch.

Perhaps the closest you'll come is to stand in a field of flowers, or just a field of grass and clover. Watch them grow. Feel the wind that blows them. Think of a field like this one, its peace shattered by cannonfire and death — and the act of memory that it takes to look beyond nature's recovery and remember the important history of a battlefield.

They died for us. Let none of us break faith with that sacrifice.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com.

Let us know

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Advertising Representative John Baskin can be reached at jbaskin@turley.com or 413-786-7747, ext. 305.

Managing Editor Michael J. Ballway can be reached at mballway@turley.com or 413-786-7747, ext. 301.

Sports Editor David Forbes can be reached at dforbes@turley.com or 413-283-8393, ext. 237.

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YESTERDAY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

Some of everything

Al Fini called to tell us his class of '56

is having its 60th reunion. You're getting old if you remember the drug store in Agawam Center being owned by Anthony and Joan Pasquale. It was called Agawam Pharmacy.

My third-grade classmate at Cathedral Grammar School in Springfield invited me to Houston. We haven't seen each other in over 60 years. He probably won't recognize me.

Guess that wasn't a time capsule they found when digging up the football field.

Thanks to Bob Desimone Jr., Debbie Thresher and Ed Cyran for saying hello to me.

Last column's picture showed, left to right, Ed Weber, Carl Montagna, Ralph DePalma, Greg Buell and Fran Capitanio. (Members of the Monty and the Specialties band in 1960.)

Richard Harrington called from Florida to say that he listened to Don Larsen's perfect game with Jim Reynolds III but it was while they were walking down Cooper Street with a transistor radio, whatever that is.

The AHS wrestling team won the Western Mass championship at least 10 years in a row. How many wrestlers could be nominated to the Hall of Fame? Coach Phil Tomkiel, too.

Took my grandson Donny Salva to an AHS baseball game at Shea's Field. We crouched behind the backstop and were sitting about 20 feet from home plate. Anthony Venturini was the umpire. He's better than 90 percent of the major league umpires we see

at Fenway. Years ago when Anthony was a shortstop against us in softball, I used to tell my team, "If you hit a lot of balls to the shortstop, we're going to lose." Anthony was that good.

The '63s are going to miss our friend and classmate Linda Barnes, who passed away recently. She helped us plan our 50th. Great career she had as a nurse at the pediatric wing of Mercy Hospital.

Anxious to see the first Hall of Fame class.

Raise your hand if you got struck out by Al Stanek. You weren't the only one.

Hard to drive down James Street without thinking of John Quill.

Terry Prefontaine called to identify all five members of Monty and the Specialties. Great gymnast who was born 50 years too soon.

Jordan Paddock came from Florida and Randy Kruger came from Virginia for the '63s' recent mini-reunion.

Did you see the Agawam Advertiser News picture of Mrs. Mary O'Rourke? Our junior high typing teacher, she still lives in town and will be 99 in July.

Mark Bird '69 still loves working on racecars.

Tom Shaer is in the sports business in Chicago. It may be a good story if I can contact him. The Cubs are trying to do what our Sox did in 2004.

Walt Willard went to AHS and taught math there for 16 years. He can be reached at 413-786-7924. Call him. Walt loves your feedback and any and all information or tidbits you can offer.

Letters to the Editor

Another successful Library Friends book sale

On behalf of the Friends of the Agawam Public Library, I would like to thank all of those people who helped to make our 14th book sale such a wonderful success. From our three-day sale on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 19, 20 and 21, we made over \$2,200.

I would personally like to thank all of those new and long-standing Friends volunteers who spent many, many, many hours working on the book sale: Kathy Arnold, Sue Avondo, Pat Bertone-Gross, Jean Clark, Carrie Coulombe, Diane Douglas, Mary Ghidoni, Luisa Guidi, Cliff Howard, Bob Kadis, Hee Sun Kim, Anne-Marie La-Zazzera, Mary Alice McQuade, Pam Pudlo, Louie Russo, Nancy Spagnoli, Mary Ann Tabor and Sandy Wolf. The book sale would

not have happened without all of you guys.

I would also like to thank all of those high school kids who helped us move the books from the library basement to the community rooms: the football team, the volleyball team, the baseball team, the girls lacrosse team, the boys track team, the girls track team, and the hockey team. They all managed to move 413 cartons in 18 minutes — a new record! I also really want to thank David Stratton, director of athletics, for organizing these teams to help us out. You made our lives oh so much easier.

A special thanks also goes to all those National Honor Society students for all their help on the days of the sale. They helped straighten books, bag books, helped

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PHONE

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EMAIL

Advertising Sales
John Baskin
jbaskin@turley.com

Managing Editor
Michael J. Ballway
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Office Manager
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aan@turley.com

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GUEST COLUMN

The end of an era

By Sarah Stone

This June, Letalien Jewelers, a small, locally owned business in Agawam, will be closing its doors for the last time. Ron Hamel, who has owned and operated the small jewelry store since 1984, is retiring this summer and, although in the great scheme of commerce and industry this may be an insignificant moment, for many of us it is the end of an era.

Arthur "Art" Letalien opened the Agawam store in 1955. My father, Ron, was a neighbor of the Letaliens and started at the jewlery store washing the glass cases, vacuuming and taking out the trash in 1962. When Ron returned from serving in Vietnam in 1970, he went back to work for Art (this time behind the counters) while attending classes at Springfield Technical Community College and taking horology courses to become a watchmaker.

For the next 45 years, Ron would man the store. He would make a career out of being everyone's neighborhood jeweler: jewelry sales, jewelry repair, watch repair and of course, watch batteries. However, it was not these services that has kept Ron in business for over four decades. When you walk into Letalien Jewelers, Ron will know your name. He will ask you about your mother, your granddaughter or your son. He will accept your repair or gladly show you a few pieces of jewelry and help you pick out a gift. He will give you all of his attention, no matter how many other customers are in the store. Then, at the time of checkout, he will cut you a deal. It's not a ploy, his merchandise isn't marked up super high so he can create the illusion of a deal; he is, in fact, cutting into his profit margin because, after all, you are a friend.

That is Ron's secret to success and the best part is, I am not sure if he is all that aware of it. He is genuine in his approach with his customers and, in return, they are loyal. In a day where people would just as soon buy a new watch instead of repair it, change a band, or replace a battery, the people of Agawam can simply pop into Letalien's and chat with Ron, while he sits at his watchmaker's bench with his loupe clipped to his glasses, and works on their watch with the highest level of care, be it a Timex or a Rolex. He takes pride in the scant amount of merchandise that was returned or exchanged during his tenure. He never pressured anyone to buy, letting them take their time until they found something that they loved. Ron was also amazing at remembering what people had already purchased for their loved ones so that he could help them pick out new items every Christmas, anniversary and birthday. If a wife came in and admired

something, he would remember, so when the husbands came shopping, he could steer them in the right direction.

In the '90s, Ron found out about a jewelry trade show in Thailand and for 20 years he would travel there once a year, stocking up on inventory in an effort to cut out the "middle-man" and keep prices low for his customers. The colorful gemstones and unique silver jewelry became his trademark and his customers were encouraged to design their own pieces if they couldn't find one that suited them. Even though the almost 24-hour-long trip and the 11-hour time difference took a toll on him, Ron would make this trip again and again every year, always searching for something new and beautiful to share with the people of Agawam.

Letalien's is so much more than a jewelry store, though. It is a cornerstone in so many people's lives. It is where my parents met. While Brenda was home from nursing school running errands for her mother, she stopped into the store and agreed to a date with my dad. They will be married 38 years this fall. For my sister Amanda and me, it was a second home. We'd play in the backroom on Saturdays, ringing up merchandise on a vintage cash register with a huge lever that you needed to pull down to open the till. At the close of business, we'd run around the store, gathering up the ring trays and laying the chains on velvet-lined caddies and helping Dad pack up the safe. Now, my two-year-old daughter Sophia can be seen on some days, opening the earring display cases and dancing in the big window.

Working at Letalien's was my first job, and I am not alone. For the past 30 years, Ron has taken on many part-time employees, some of which have become (quite literally) family. I remember Colleen, Keith, Kelly, Stacey, Paul and Amanda B. Kate Curley worked there for 12 years, through high school and college, in addition to babysitting Amanda and me. Ron proudly walked her down the aisle on the day of her wedding and Amanda and I will always consider her our sister. Aaron Sundberg started working there in 2002, shortly after he started dating my sister Amanda. He would work there until 2007 and would go on to marry Amanda in September of 2014. More recently, Dylan and Lexi have helped Ron run the store and are the latest addition to the Letalien family. Behind the scenes, where she prefers to be, has always been my mother, Brenda. Paying bills, writing checks, running to the bank, doing the payroll — she has been Letalien's bookkeeper for the past 40 years.

For many others, Letalien's is a lunch spot, a hideout, a guys club. The familiar faces include Dave Gallerani, Fred Harpin, Rocky Snow, Harry

Vandergrift, Dick Pizano and many more. You could pop next door to EB's and order the Ron Sandwich ("The Ron-wich") and bring it over to the backroom at Letalien's. You could prop your feet up on the old desk and rock back in the worn office chairs and listen to Ron's doo wop softly playing in the background. And, of course, you can shoot the breeze with Mike "Mitch" Keeley, perhaps the most constant and common fixture at Letalien's. Ron and Mitch have been friends for the past 30 years, Mitch hanging out in the backroom while on his lunch break and later, becoming the "general manager." Mitch is also looking forward to retirement.

Closing the doors to Letalien Jewelers means so much more than just a going-out-of-business sale. It means that friends will no longer be able to pop in during lunch or on Saturday morning while out running errands. It means no more huge Christmas Eve parties, where Ron would have Santa come for the kids and there would be an enormous bowl of champagne punch. It means that the increasingly rare brand of customer service that Ron has provided to the people of Agawam will become that much harder to find.

"That place had such an impact on my life and my heart," says Kate. "I always thought my kids would end up working there, too."

It is strange to think of my father in retirement, to be able to call him during the day and not have him say, "I have to go honey, someone's coming in." It's odd to think that I will have to bring my watch to a stranger to have the battery replaced and I know that many more people will be searching for a new neighborhood jeweler. My parents have worked hard all their lives and as a result, they have instilled a strong work ethic in not only my sister and me, but in all the young people that have worked behind those big glass cases. They are looking forward to their retirement and to spending time together. The era of Letalien Jewelers is coming to a close in the next few weeks, so make sure you pop in one last time, even if you don't have a purchase or a repair. Look around the store (little changed since it opened 61 years ago), trade one last story, hear one last joke from Mitch, show Ron that you are still wearing the watch, the earrings, the engagement ring that you picked out all those years ago. And join me in saying "thank you" for his hard work, his strong work ethic, his generosity, his thoughtfulness, his friendship and for being such a big part of all your special days.

Sarah (Hamel) Stone is the daughter of Ron Hamel, owner of Letalien Jewelers at 383 Walnut Street Ext. in Agawam.

DEATH NOTICES

Choiniere, Robert A.

Died May 19
Funeral May 24
Agawam Funeral Home

Garfield, Gary S. Jr.

Died May 14
Funeral May 20
Agawam Funeral Home

Misischia, Samuel J.

Died May 19
Funeral May 24
Curran-Jones Funeral Home
Agawam

Soden, Blanche I.

Died May 20
Private services
Curran-Jones Funeral Home
Agawam

Agawam Advertiser News

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$75, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

LETTER ■ from page 4

customers, restocked the tables, etc., on the days of the sale. We had quite a few customers who told us how impressed they were with the help that they got from these students and how pleased they were.

Another vote of thanks goes to the Agawam Public Library staff who, as usual, helped throughout the year by storing the books, fielding numerous questions about the book sale and the Friends and helped in promoting both.

Lastly, per usual, my very special thanks goes to the Agawam community itself. Our call for donations received an overwhelming response from the community. We received over 15,000 books. We truly appreciate the efforts of all those who donated books, CDs, DVDs, tapes, puzzles, etc. Without your donations, our sale would not have been possible.

So that the books would not go to waste, we were able to have the adult leftover books picked up by the Bridgeport Bindery, a local company

that has expanded their business to resell and recycle used books. Their dedication to their community is well appreciated. We also had the children's books picked up by the Big Brothers-Big Sisters of Hampshire County. They will distribute the books to those children in need.

With the profits that we have made with this sale, the Friends will be able to help provide the library with the funding that they need to help fill the gap between their needs and what has been allocated for their budget.

Again, I would like to thank the Agawam community for helping to make our 14th annual book sale such a rousing success. With your help in the future, we will make the 15th annual book sale even more of a success. See you all at next year's book sale, as usual, on the third weekend in May!

Marcia E. Capuano, chairman
Book Sale Committee
Friends of the Agawam Public Library

FAITH MATTERS

Now and then

When we were young children, we often waited eagerly for some

future hope. Maybe it concluding verses of the Book of Revelation, is, "Soon."

But how soon is soon? Is it just around the corner, or is it far off in the future? After all, God doesn't measure time like we do. An eternity for us is like a blink of the eye for God. But God always gives us a vision of what he is going to do. God brought Moses up to the mountain-top to see the "promised land" before he died. Martin Luther King Jr. recalled the scriptures in his last public



Pastor Ken Blanchard

FAITH ■ page 6

Register for Camp Invention today!

Behind every discovery is a curious mind! If you are on the search for a fun, weeklong summer program for your rising 1st-6th grader, you're in luck! Powder Mill School in Southwick is hosting Camp Invention from July 11th to July 15th from 9-3:30. Now is the time to register at www.campinvention.org or call 800.968.4332.

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Deadline next week for 3D art show

The Friends of the Agawam Public Library will present a four-day exhibition of three-dimensional art objects in the second Open Juried 3D Art Object Show. The exhibition will include art objects from a broad range of artistic endeavors, including traditional and contemporary sculpture, jewelry, furniture, ceramics and other artisan and craft categories.

This show brings together a broad mixture of art forms and media, which may include stone, bronze, wood, metals, fabrics,

glass, recyclables or found objects, and which may present as a single medium or mixed media.

Entries for the 3D Art Object Show are being accepted through Tuesday, May 31. Full entry details are available from Bob Kadis at r.kadis@comcast.net or 413-789-4814, or at www.agawamlibrary.org/about/friends.htm.

The exhibition will run June 8-11 at the library, 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

FAITH ■ from page 5

speech before he was assassinated when he proclaimed that he had "been to the mountaintop" and saw the promised land, and he went on to describe the vision he had been given of a new world. There are many examples in the scriptures of men and women given visions of a new future.

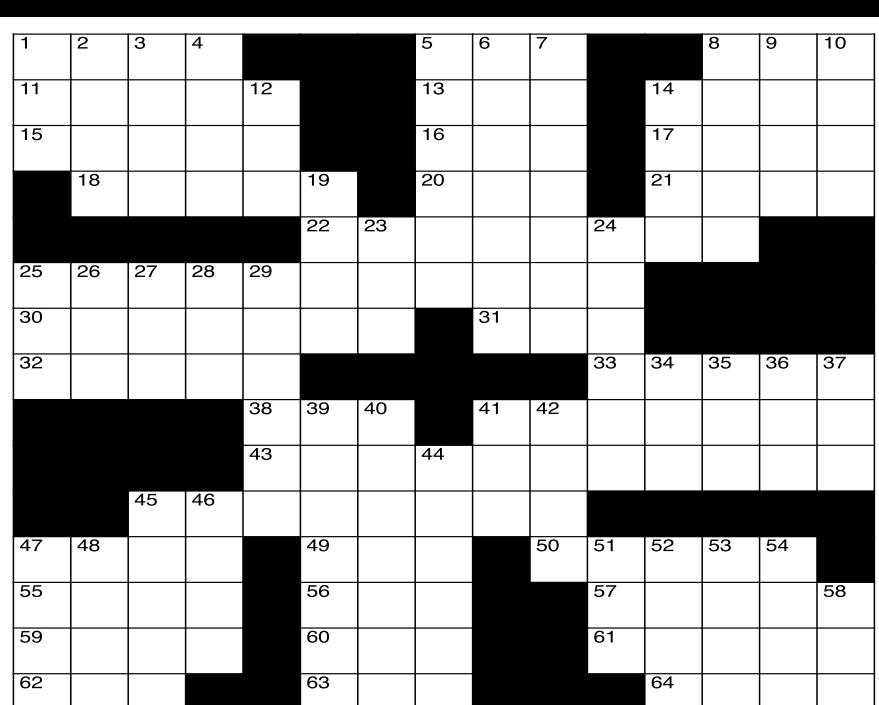
Once we've been given that vision, it is our responsibility as Christians to help bring it about. The Bible defines faith as the "assurance of things hoped for." Future visions of hope are more than just wishful thinking. They are a picture of God's intended reality, and a call to action now. The "then" mixes with the "now." It's now and then. Revelation 21:4 says, "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." What a vision. Can you imagine it? This passage gives us hints that our final destiny is not a merely spiritual heaven, but a new creation. Hearing that, my heart cries out "When?" — and God's answer is only, "Soon."

The location mentioned in this chapter of Revelation is Jerusalem, the place where three great faith traditions got their start, yet it is a "new" Jerusalem — a city of peace that recognizes the fact that we are all indeed children of God — now and then. It is not just a future hope — it is a reality that

could apply to our present world. We could live into this kind of vision now if only we as human beings had not so effectively cut ourselves off from the source of all things — God. Too many of us completely fail to recognize that we are all God's children — even people very different from us. It might be that this lack of recognition of our true identity is what hinders the formation of the new heavens and the new earth, the New Jerusalem, now.

Love elevates the human condition. If we could recognize the true nature of God at work within us and within others, then we could perhaps experience the new Jerusalem, not in the future, not then, but now. We must live here and now as it will be in the future. Now and then. We are to live and love as if the future were already here. We are to live lives that understand that death does not have the final word. It is God's love in us and for us that calls the shots — not death, mourning, crying or pain. We are to be made perfect in love in this life as witness and as a foretaste of a new future, a new creation to come. When will it all come to pass? Soon. Until then, love is the answer. Now and then. Amen.

Ken Blanchard is the pastor at Agawam United Methodist Church on Mill Street in Feeding Hills.



CLUES ACROSS

- Groan
- Engine additive
- Atomic mass unit (abbr.)
- One-time emperor
- Martial art __ chi
- Extinct algae
- The leading performer
- Autonomic nervous system
- Pirate who went by "Chico"
- Encourages
- Small tactical munition
- One-time Tribe closer
- North, Central and South
- Repossession
- Conveys air to and from the lungs
2. museum
5. (Italian)
8. solar and lunar time
11. (abbr.)
13. here
14. (abbr.)
15. here
16. Brett
17. "Chico"
18. (German)
20. Brett
21. closer
22. South
25. repossession
30. air to and from the lungs
31. (abbr.)
32. Brett
33. Brett
34. Brett
35. Brett
36. Brett
37. Brett
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63. Brett
64. Brett

CLUES DOWN

- Helps you get there
- Plant
- Apron
- Everybody has one
- Conditions of balance
- Fit
- Island in Lake Michigan
- True firs
- Operates
- Approves food
- Tell on
- __ mater, one's school
- Wild mango
- The woman
- Afflicted
- Look furtively
- Large integer
- Spiritual leader
- Keeps us warm
- Type of account
- Check
- Decide
- Lodging
- Singer DiFranco
- Kazakhstan river
- 1920's woman's hat
- Corpus __, Texas city
- Helps kids
- Tires have this
- Physical attraction
- Goddess of wisdom
- Made of wood
- The top
- Automatic data processing system
- Exchange
- Swiss river
- Prejudice
- Napoleon came here
- Big guys grab these (abbr.)
- Shock therapy
- Mickey's pet

'Women or What?' to benefit Open Pantry

Springfield-based stylist Tony Isham will present "WOW — Women or What?" an evening of entertainment featuring female impersonators to be held Friday, June 3, at Chez Josef in Agawam.

The event is designed for an 18-and-older crowd and will benefit Open Pantry Community Services Inc. Isham has presented the event annually for 18 years, designating a charity each time to benefit from the evening's proceeds. Open Pantry has been selected on six past occasions.

There will be a cocktail hour from 7-8

p.m. that evening, including hors d'oeuvres, followed by the show at 8 p.m. The evening will also feature a silent auction and a 50-50 raffle, both to benefit Open Pantry.

Individual tickets are \$45. Tables of 10 can be booked for \$400 with assigned seating, and VIP tables of 10 are available for \$500, also with assigned seating. VIP tables will receive priority seating and a complimentary beverage and appetizer.

For tickets, contact Lynne Goldberg at 413-530-8453 or Kim Kennedy, of Open Pantry, at 413-746-6241.



Vietnam veteran John Hurley and his wife, Gail, hold a sign dedicated to Hurley that will be placed along the new section of the Purple Heart Trail on Main Street in Agawam. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

PURPLE ■ from page 1

signs placed up along Main Street after the Agawam City Council approved the designation.

"This will be a visual reminder of the many sacrifices all those who have signs here paid during their individual conflicts," said Willette.

State Rep. John Velis, D-Westfield, who is also a veteran and advocates for veterans in the Legislature, spoke at the ceremony, saying regular life is possible because of the sacrifices of those being honored on the signs.

"We would be a nation in peril if we ever forgot these individuals," said Velis.

Willette said family members and some military units sponsored the signs. Every conflict from World War II on has a Purple Heart honoree on a sign. Those honored did not have to be from Agawam, and include some very well-publicized names of

soldiers killed in action during the past 10 years.

Among them are Travis Fuller of Granville, Gunnery Sgt. Thomas Sullivan from Springfield, and First Sgt. Kevin Dupont of Chicopee. Dupont recently had a middle school in Chicopee named for him.

Also receiving signs were World War II veterans Frederick Bronson, Clarence Andruss, Phillip Girard, and Alfonzo Laudato, Jr., Korean War veteran William Knight, Vietnam veterans Hurley, Daniel Hollis, Kenneth Bihler, Steven Sawyer, and Edward Connolly, Jr., Iraq War veteran Alan Sirois and Afghanistan veteran Josh Deforges.

Willette said the signs would be placed in the near future.

Mayor Richard Cohen and Councilor George Bitzas called the addition to Main Street a great day for the town and for the families of those veterans who were honored.

the town is predicting the course will bring in \$575,742. That is up from the fiscal 2016 projection of \$552,423.

The golf course budget, which has been called into question for not generating enough revenue to sustain itself, has been on an uptick for the past two years thanks to better weather and course conditions.

Ad Hoc Golf Committee Chairman Robert Rossi said he is hoping the golf course will be able to meet or exceed its goal for fiscal 2016, but cold and rainy weather in April and May could hurt its chances. Because it is an enterprise fund, the course is only allowed to spend what it takes in. The course's budget is also based on how much revenue it takes in during the previous year.

The mayor is projecting that about \$57.9 million will have to be raised by taxation, well below the levy limit.

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.

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Public Safety

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 73 EMS calls from May 10 to May 16, and the following emergency response calls.

On May 10 at 8:23 a.m., the department responded to Edward Street for public service assistance, other.

On May 10 at 9:20 a.m., the department responded to Brookfield Lane for person in distress, other.

On May 10 at 12:13 p.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

On May 10 at 2:25 p.m., the department responded to Brookfield Lane to assist invalid.

On May 11 at 8:10 a.m., the department responded to Cooper Street for alarm system activation, no fire — unintentional.

On May 11 at 10:26 a.m., the department responded to Forest Ridge Lane for detector activation, no fire — unintentional.

On May 11 at 12:39 p.m., the department responded to the Route 57 rotary for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

On May 11 at 4:25 p.m., the department responded to Paul Revere Drive to assist invalid.

On May 11 at 9:28 p.m., the department responded to Riviera Drive, was dispatched and canceled en route.

On May 12 at 8:40 a.m., the department responded to River Road to search for person in water.

On May 12 at 3:47 p.m., the department responded to River Road to search for person in water.

On May 13 at 9:57 a.m., the department responded to N. West St. to assist invalid.

On May 13 at 2:36 p.m., the department responded

to Forest Road for lockout.

On May 13 at 4:19 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for alarm system activation, no fire — unintentional.

On May 13 at 10:57 p.m., the department responded to North Street for fire, other.

On May 14 at 2:17 p.m., the department responded to Norris Street for carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO.

On May 14 at 3:44 p.m., the department responded to Elm Street for unauthorized burning.

On May 15 at 3:07 a.m., the department responded to North Street for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 373 calls for service from May 16 to May 22. The department recorded two arrests in its public log. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Tuesday, May 16

Alfred Joseph Marotte, 55, of 59 Regency Park Drive, Agawam, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

Friday, May 20

Jonathan Landers-Sadowski, 20, of 775 Springfield St., Apt. 4A, Agawam, was arrested on a default warrant and a charge of possession to distribute a Class A drug.

Historical museum open for holiday

The Agawam Historical and Firehouse Museum will be open on Memorial Day, noon to 3 p.m. Monday, May 30. The museum, which houses a collection of artifacts showcasing the town's history, this year is featuring an exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Eastern States Exhibi-

tion.

The museum will also be open 1-4 p.m. Sunday, June 26; 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11; and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15.

For more information, visit www.agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com or follow it on Facebook.

'Bad News' back for dinner dance next week

Jeff Gavioli and his Bad News Jazz & Blues Orchestra will return by popular demand as the featured musical act at the Friday, June 3, Agawam Cultural Council dinner dance to be held at Crestview Country Club, 281 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam.

The evening will start with a social hour at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. and dancing until 10:30 p.m. to the sounds of one of the Pioneer Valley's most popular big band jazz groups. Free dance instruction will be provided from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. by Jo Sarnelli and Jeff Lander.

Tickets to the dinner dance are \$45 per person, with tables of eight, 10, and 12

available. Tickets can be purchased by contacting Maryellen Sullivan at 413-575-1759 or rudee38@comcast.net. Tickets may also be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope and check made out to Agawam Cultural Council to Agawam Cultural Council, Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main St., Agawam, MA 01001, Attention: Dinner Dance.

All proceeds from the event will benefit the Agawam Cultural Council's "Give Back to the Community" program. For more information about the Agawam Cultural Council, visit www.agawamcc.org.

JOGGER / PRESS HELPER OPENING

Turley Publications, Inc. (Palmer Plant) is accepting applications for an experienced **PRESS HELPER / JOGGER**, primarily first shift, but must be flexible to float to other shifts on an as needed basis.

Candidate must be reliable and capable of working with minimal supervision on a cold web printing press, while maintaining a role as a team player.

MAIL ROOM/BINDERY OPENING

Turley Publications, Inc. (Palmer Plant) is accepting applications for an entry level **MAIL ROOM/BINDERY HELPER**, primarily first shift, but must be flexible for overtime shifts on an as needed basis.

Candidate must be reliable and capable of feeding pockets, catching and tying with minimal supervision, while maintaining a role as a team player.

Experience with mail preparation and handling a plus.

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Turley Publications, Inc. is a diverse, equal opportunity employer with a benefits package and 401K plan.

Wicked Weds. sponsorships available later this year

The West of the River Chamber has four Wicked Wednesday sponsorship opportunities available for area businesses. Sponsorships are \$125 each. Sponsoring companies will be included in all marketing materials, flyers, brochures and press releases and will receive recognition for the evening as the sponsor of the event.

Sponsorship sessions are available for September, October, December and February. For more information, email info@westoftheriverchamber.com or call 413-426-3880.

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Church to host Strawberry Supper

Agawam Congregational Church at 745 Main St. will host its annual Strawberry Supper, Saturday, June 18, with servings at 4:45 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. The menu includes ham, homemade potato salad, coleslaw, homemade baked beans, rolls, coffee and tea, homemade strawberry shortcake and

real whipped cream.

Tickets purchased in advance are \$15 for adults and \$6 for children under the age of 12. Tickets purchased at the door are \$18. Tickets are available in the church office from 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday and at coffee hour on Sundays.

Bandathon this weekend to benefit Agawam school music programs

Schedule of events

Bandathon 2016 will take place Saturday, May 28, at School Street Park in Agawam.

11 a.m.: Opening ceremonies will feature the Agawam American Legion Honor Guard, Agawam Community Concert Band and Agawam High School Color Guard and dedication of the band shell to Darcy B. Davis, retired Agawam High School band director who was instrumental in creating the music program as it is known today in Agawam.

Noon: Agawam Alumni Jazz Ensemble directed by 1985 alumnus Todd Connery.

1 p.m.: Blue Skies Big Band New England.

2:15 p.m.: SDRUM featuring AHS alumni John Losito and Brian Pioggia.

3 p.m.: Agawam's Got Talent Competition hosted by local newscaster Chris Pisano. \$100 cash prize. Cost to enter is \$20 for an individual or group. Must be an Agawam resident. Limited to music, instrumental or vocal, and dance.

4:15 p.m.: Grand prize raffle drawing, awards, music and more.

Agawam Cultural Council seeks new member

The Agawam Cultural Council will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 21, at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The meeting is open to the public.

A great opportunity exists with the Agawam Cultural Council for anyone with an interest in providing diverse cultural events for the town. This all-volunteer organization, appointed by the mayor and

funded, in part, by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, is looking for new members. The ACC is charged with bringing engaging, entertaining, and educational events and opportunities in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences, to children and adults from Agawam and the surrounding communities.

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Youth



John Weiss, then president of the West of the River Chamber of Commerce, and School Supt. William Sapelli chat before last year's Career Day at Agawam High School. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Career Day returns to AHS in June

Juniors at Agawam High School will participate in the school's third annual Career Day on June 2. Career Day, sponsored by the West of the River Chamber of Commerce, allows workers and leaders from local companies to speak to the students about their industries and what education or training is needed to obtain a career in their field.

Lisa Sheehan, Career Center Coordinator at AHS, said there will be more than 30 guest speakers from the community at this year's event, representing careers ranging from engineering, law, and medical to construction management, manufacturing and cosmetology.

The guest speakers address the stu-

dents in two 45-minute sessions in a classroom setting. The students have the opportunity to ask questions in addition to learning firsthand about various occupations. Through this opportunity, students are able to build relationships with various community members and secure job shadowing and internships that could eventually lead into employment.

Companies that are in need of part-time employees, interested in allowing students to shadow or intern, or who want to be involved in next year's Career Day may contact Sheehan at 413-786-0861 or lsheehan@agawampublicschools.org.

Students chosen for Rotary leadership program

The Agawam Rotary Club will be sending four Agawam sophomores to a one-day leadership training and team-building program at Springfield College on June 4. They are Aveilla Abramchuk, Brianna Gaynor, Nil Patel and A.J. Slavas.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards is a program that originated with Rotary International and has subsequently been specifically designed by Rotary District 7890, Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut. RYLA encourages servant leadership in youth by recognizing and rewarding deserving 10th grade students who are chosen to attend RYLA as an "award" for their past and present leadership and ser-

vice activities. These select young people attend an all-expenses-paid camp where they are inspired by a diverse group of exceptional speakers, make lifelong friends through fellowship activities, and discuss the ethical and social issues of today. These activities are conducted in an atmosphere of trust and respect. The result is that these students return to their schools and communities motivated to take on additional leadership roles and to find additional ways to serve.

The students were recommended by their teachers and guidance counselors and then interviewed by a select committee of the Agawam Rotary Club.

School Lunch

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, May 30: Memorial Day. No school.
Tuesday, May 31: Turkey tacos, lettuce and tomato, corn muffin, seasoned vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.
Wednesday, June 1: Chicken filet wrap with assorted sauce, lettuce, tomato and cheese, side of pasta salad, fresh and chilled fruit.
Thursday, June 2: Fresh assorted calzones, garden salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit.
Friday, June 3: Big Mac burger, lettuce and tomato, French fries, coleslaw, fresh and chilled fruit.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, May 30: Memorial Day. No school.
Tuesday, May 31: Manager's choice.
Wednesday, June 1: Ziti with meat sauce, garlic knot, seasoned corn, fresh and chilled fruit.
Thursday, June 2: Chicken sampler with dipping sauce, French fries, seasoned vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.
Friday, June 3: French bread pizza, salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

RUBERTA L. DUERING SCHOOL AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, May 30: Memorial Day. No school.
Tuesday, May 31: Manager's choice.
Wednesday, June 1: Ziti with meat sauce, garlic knot, seasoned corn, fresh and chilled fruit.
Thursday, June 2: Turkey and cheese sandwich, macaroni salad, celery sticks with ranch, fresh and chilled fruit.
Friday, June 3: French bread pizza, salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST MENU ELEMENTARY BREAKFAST MENU

Monday, May 30: Memorial Day. No school.
Tuesday, May 31: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted nutri-grain bars, mozzarella cheese string, juice.
Wednesday, June 1: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted muffins, mozzarella cheese string, juice.
Thursday, June 2: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted Trix yogurt, mozzarella cheese string, juice.
Friday, June 3: Pillsbury mini pancakes with syrup for dipping, mozzarella cheese string, 1 percent low-fat milk, juice.

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Cronin inducted into academic honor society

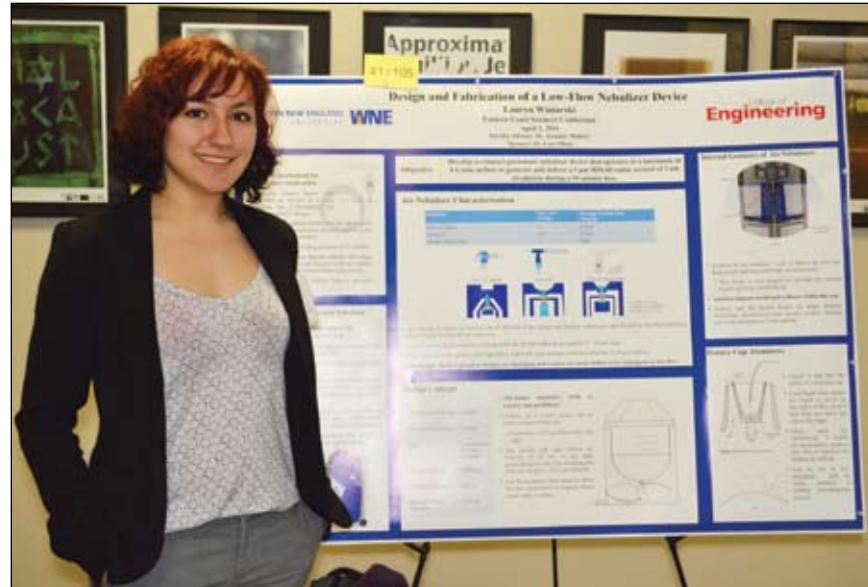
SMITHFIELD, R.I. — Feeding Hills resident Carly Cronin was recently inducted into the National Honor Society, Beta Gamma Sigma, on the campus of Bryant University. Membership into Beta Gamma Sigma is the highest recognition a business student can receive in an undergraduate or graduate program accredited by the AACSB International.

Cronin is majoring in marketing and psychology at Bryant. She has accepted a full-time paid internship this summer at Financial Partners Inc. Cronin is also a member of the two-time championship Northeast Conference women's lacrosse team, which has made two NCAA appearances. She was named First Team All-Northeast Conference last week for the second consecutive year.

She is the daughter of Tom and Gina Cronin of Feeding Hills.



Carly Cronin



Lauryn Winiarski of Agawam stands by her poster at the Eastern Colleges Science Conference. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Agawam scholars participate in science conference

SPRINGFIELD — Two local students at Western New England University participated in the Eastern Colleges Science Conference, held recently at WNEU.

Jeffrey Rovatti of Feeding Hills, a doctor of pharmacy major, received the Excellence in Innovated Research award, which is annually awarded to the top

oral presentation.

Lauryn Winiarski of Agawam, a mechanical engineering major, presented her poster "Design and Fabrication of a Low-Flow Nebulizer Device."

This was the largest conference in the event's 70-year history, with more than 350 attendees from 23 colleges.

Agawam High School Counseling bulletin

Special interest programs

Springfield Technical Community College is again offering the chance for current juniors and seniors to take up to one free course in the fall session through the "College Now" program. This is a great way to earn college credits while in high school while trying courses that may be helpful in exploring a potential career interest. See your counselor for details.

Scholarship information

Students should see their counselor or visit the websites for more information or an application: The Online MBA Report; Horatio Alger Association & Technical Scholarship; American College Foundation; Holyoke Credit Union Scholarship; Class of 1980 Scholarship; Amherst Orchid Society; Jewish Endowment Fund; Rebekah Assembly of Massachusetts; Holyoke Credit Union Scholarship Program; Hood Milk Sportsmanship Scholarship; Red Pine Scholarship; Yawkey Scholars Program; The Phillips Scholarship Fund; The Michael Ya-

sick ADHD Scholarship by Shire; Big Y Scholarship; John F. Kennedy Library Foundation; Westfield-West Springfield Elks Lodge 1481; Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps; Hampden County Improvement League; Abbott & Fenner Business Consultants; Jack Kent Cooke Foundation; American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship; GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship; The Henry David Thoreau Foundation; Aspiring Fashion Professional Scholarship; Aspiring Animation Professional Scholarship; Aspiring Nurse Scholarship.

Meritaid.com: On this free website, students can complete a profile and then access the college merit scholarships that match their profile. This organization does not sell its email lists to third parties. The site includes a comprehensive directory of merit scholarships and academic scholarships across the country.

Did you know: "Things turn out best for people who make the best of the way things turn out." — John Wooden

CAMPUS NOTES

Assumption College: Alexander Efstratios and Jack Murphy, of Agawam; and Jenna Fenton and Cristina Zaffetti, of Feeding Hills, graduated at commencement ceremonies held May 7.

Fitchburg State University: Benjamin Clinton and Ashley M. Jediny, of Feeding Hills, graduated at commencement ceremonies held recently.

Keene State College: Liana Blais, of Agawam, graduated at commencement ceremonies held May 7. Liana Blais, of Agawam, and Vincenzo Scuderi, of Feeding Hills, were named to the spring semester dean's list.

Northeastern University: Shannon Reardon, of Feeding Hills, was named to the spring semester dean's list.

More youth news on page 11

School sprouts



Teacher Jill Despard and sixth-grader Devin Raymond Surreira collect yard waste from the Doering School front lawn to make way for flower plantings.



Sixth-graders at Roberta Doering School stand with their teachers and Mayor Richard Cohen during an after-school weeding and planting activity organized by teacher Kathy Jediny. This is the second straight year that student volunteers have planted flowers at the school. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY



From left, Joe Giguere-Powell, Ella Eastman and Olivia Barbarini plant flowers outside Roberta Doering School on Thursday afternoon, May 19. All are sixth graders.



Trinity Wright, right, waits for Diana Ghareeb to hand her a pallet of flowers to plant outside Roberta Doering School on Thursday. The flowers and other materials for the afternoon of planting were donated by E. Cecchi Farms, Dave's Soda and Pet Food City, Home Depot in Westfield and Rocky's Ace Hardware.



Bella Rollend, right, reacts to a worm dug up by Rachel Sigafose, left, while preparing the ground for flower plantings on Thursday. In the background at right is Jessica Schuler.

Prom night



The 2016 Agawam High School prom was held on Friday, April 29, at the Log Cabin in Holyoke. Prom-goers ready for their big night, pictured left to right, are Morgan Durocher, Matt Clarke, Riley Pearson and Samantha Downs. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Confirmation class



Agawam Congregational Church celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation on May 15. Confirmation class teacher Stacey Wieners — back row, center — is pictured with confirmants Zack Robert Wieners, Harrison John Mendrala, Ethan James Timms, Ashley Patricia Adams, Matthew Robert Liimatainen and Caleb Raymond Williams. SUBMITTED PHOTO

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During the luminaria ceremony, which honors those who are battling cancer or have lost their lives to the disease, organizers placed a small table, set for one with an empty chair, in front of the stage to symbolize a loved one who is missing because of cancer.



Agawam High School varsity swimming and diving team members, from left, Victoria Sutherland, a senior, Ashley Lauieia, a junior, and Erica Rogers, a freshman, are used to doing laps in the pool, but instead walked laps at School Street Park during this year's Relay. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK

'Superheroes' raise nearly \$50K to help fight cancer



During the last activity before the closing ceremony, Relayers Sharon Manzi, of team Ben's Buddies, and Ginger Berger, of team Bucko's Bunch — wearing her Wonder Woman costume — joined other participants in signing a pledge to fight back against cancer by taking steps to be healthier and help prevent cancer.



Jeff and Alison Berger of Feeding Hills wore matching Superman shirts to complement the Relay theme, "Fight Like a Superhero." They were members of team Bucko's Bunch.



Samantha Rudd, co-chair for the 2016 Relay for Life of Agawam, talks with Sue and Bob Rose during a reception and dinner for cancer survivors and caregivers prior to the start of this year's Relay.



Despite the chilly overnight temperatures, the Bumpa's Crew appeared to be comfy and cozy in their pop-up tent as they prepared to spend the night at the Relay.

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Sue Cimmi doesn't look like a superhero. But the Springfield elementary school teacher is viewed as a superhero by family and friends for surviving a "rocky road" to recovery after being diagnosed with breast cancer nearly six years ago at age 42.

She delivered an emotional and inspiring speech to nearly 500 participants at the opening ceremonies for the American Cancer Society's 2016 Relay for Life of Agawam. The fifth annual Relay was held last Friday and Saturday, May 20-21, at School Street Park. This year's theme was "Fight Like a Superhero."

Cimmi offered a message of hope to people diagnosed with cancer, saying that there can be a light at the end of the tunnel following treatment. Her message was one of hope and of the need for everyone to "fight like a superhero" to create a better tomorrow and a world without cancer.

The Relay kicked off Friday just after 6 p.m. with a ceremonial first lap by cancer survivors. Then, for 18 hours, at least one person from 31 teams — some dressed as their favorite superheroes — walked around the park.

They talked, cried, and shared stories into the night, during the night, and through the next morning. They remembered friends and loved ones lost to cancer and vowed to never stop fighting back against this deadly disease.

By the time the Relay ended Saturday at noon, teams had raised nearly \$50,000, with more to come as fundraising continues through the end of August.



During opening ceremonies, Agawam Mayor Richard Cohen came on stage to present Relay co-chair Janine Iacolo with a check for \$100 as his personal donation to the Relay.



Feeding Hills residents, from left, Kyle Nardi, Theresa Gagner and Chloe Nardi were among the participants walking the first few laps of the Relay. They are members of Ben's Buddies, a new team at the 2016 Relay.



Jack Sarat holds one of the youngest participants at this year's Relay, his granddaughter, in the Team Sarat tent. The Sarat family has been participating in Relay for Life for 20 years.



It was a sea of purple as cancer survivors took the ceremonial first lap on Friday evening to officially kick off the 2016 Relay for Life of Agawam.

Fattini given scholarship



Dennis Moran, left, member of the Holyoke Credit Union's board of directors and member of the scholarship committee, presented Holyoke Credit Union scholarship awards to Amanda Casineau of West Springfield, Dominic Fattini of Feeding Hills, and Alexander Glanville and Ryan Shea, both of Holyoke. SUBMITTED PHOTO



From left, nursing scholarship winners Shannon R. Pessin, Natalie A. Honsinger, Jose Perpignan, Robert W. Connor and Andrew J. Gugonis. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Honsinger awarded nursing scholarship

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — At its annual spring luncheon, the Lucretia H. Richter Nursing Scholarship Committee awarded scholarships to five nursing students in the Rochester, N.Y., area. Students were chosen on the basis of academic excellence, commitment to nursing, recommendation from faculty and demonstration of financial need.

Among this year's recipients was Aga-

wam resident Natalie A. Honsinger, of the University of Rochester. Each of the five recipients was presented a check for \$1,000 to be used at their discretion.

The committee is named for a late public health nurse, nursing recruiter and nursing instructor at Roberts Wesleyan College in North Chili, N.Y., and has awarded over \$100,000 since its inception in 1983.

Free kids camp at Hope Church

Hope Community Church will offer a free kids camp Monday through Friday, July 18-22, from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration for "Cave Quest" is available online at www.hopecommunitychurchagawam.org. A free gift will be given to all those registered by June 1.

There will be a closing rally for the entire family Friday, July 22, at the church at 152 S. Westfield St., Feeding Hills. Children must be accompanied by an adult to attend the closing rally.

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Dancing for the crowd



With clear skies and bright sunshine, Saturday was the perfect day for the Spirit of Springfield's annual Pancake Breakfast, and Agawam's Mary Ann Studio of Dance was there, as it has been, since the very start of the Pancake Breakfast, to entertain the crowds. The dancers took to the stage right after the opening ceremonies performing to songs including "Magic," "Ronnie the Robot" and others. SUBMITTED PHOTO

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.

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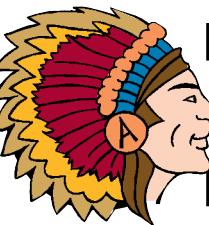
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SPORTS


VOLLEYBALL

Brownies storm past Falcons

By Nate Rosenthal

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM - The Agawam volleyball team came into the season as one of the favorites and played the part throughout the regular season. They beat Minnechaug three sets to one and showed why they may just be the team to beat.

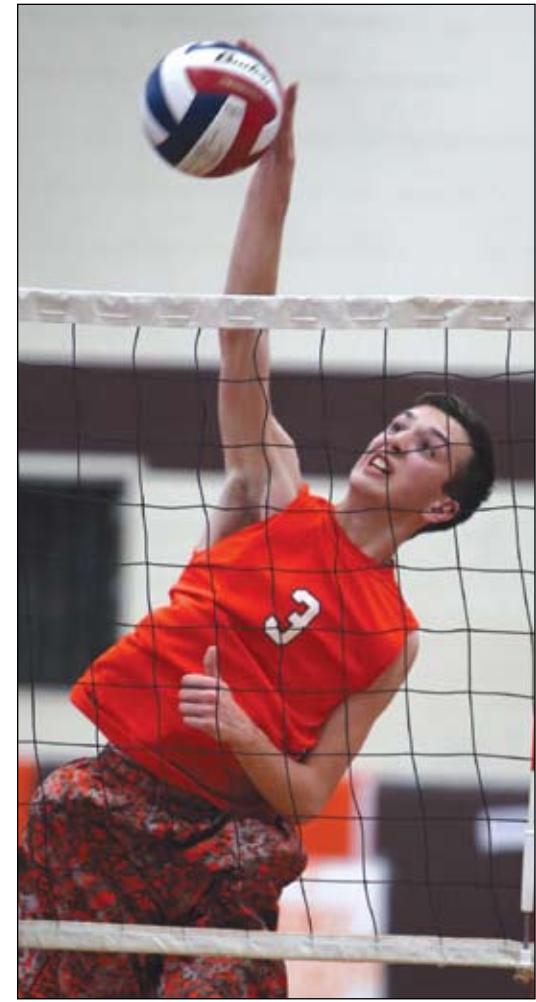
They lost the first set to the Falcons, 25-18, and then came back to win the next three. After evening the match in game, 25-19. The Brownies spotted the Falcons a 10-point lead, 17-7 in the third set and then came back with a vengeance to score 11 of 12 points and tie it up at 18-18. With the momentum on their side, they continued their run and won the set, 25-23. There was no stopping Agawam after that. They scored the first eight points in game four, opened up a 20-8 lead and finally fought off a late challenge that cut the margin to seven before winning 25-16.

The first set was all Minnechaug. The Brownies scored the first point, but that would be their only lead. Tim Budrow had a kill to tie it and a dig to give the Falcons the lead. He had a tip to make it a two-point game next. A kill by Geoff Circosta brought it back to one, but then Minnechaug ran off the next five points, the last coming on an ace by Budrow. The Brownies closed it to 8-5 with three straight points on unforced errors, but the Falcons brought it right and after a Gavin Berkeley kill, they led 13-6 and soon to 16-8. The Brownies began to chip away and got as close as 20-16 on Garrett Hollander kill. The teams traded points to 22-18. The Falcons scored the next three points, including an ace by Matt Garbecki and they had the 25-18 win.

Agawam never trailed in game two. They grabbed a 1-0 lead on a kill by Mike Basile kill and Min-



Alan Burlachenko tips the ball over the net.



Caleb Hodovanec makes a return hit. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

VOLLEYBALL | page 13

SOFTBALL

Catcher Sierra Kruser throws down to second.



Pitcher Allison Wheeler fires to the plate. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Lady Panthers tip Agawam

By Dave Forbes

Turley Publications Sports Staff Writer

PALMER - Looking for a good test heading into postseason play, the Agawam and Palmer softball teams took to the field on Monday afternoon.

Pitching aces Savannah Cavanaugh of Palmer and Allison Wheeler of Agawam nearly matched each other in the number of zeroes that each was able to put up on the scoreboard and in strikeouts, but in the end it was the Lady Panthers (12-3) that were able to pull out a 2-1 victory.

The two fireballers had the opposing batters off balance all game

long as they were both dialed in. Cavanaugh, who allowed two hits, finished with 17 strikeouts, while Wheeler, who only gave up three hits, had just one fewer strikeout as she finished with 16.

With the score tied 1-1 in the bottom of the fifth, Palmer's Sydney Levasseur got in base when she was able to smash a double.

Catcher Jennica Sablak then delivered an RBI single to put the Lady Panthers on top for the second time in the contest, 2-1.

Agawam (12-3) evened the score at 1-1 in the top of the fourth when Maria Moccio, who had the only two hits of the day for the Lady Brownies, hit a long triple.

Jessica Lingenberg then delivered her home with a sacrifice fly.

Jasmine McCord broke the scoreless tie in the bottom of the third for the Lady Panthers when she blasted a ball deep into the outfield and raced around the bases for an inside-the-park homer.

Palmer was coming into the game on a hot streak, having beaten Smith Academy, 10-0, Central, 13-3, and Easthampton, 8-3, in the previous week.

In the win over Central, Cavanaugh recorded her 500th career strikeout as she had 19 of them

SOFTBALL | page 14

VOLLEYBALL

Brownies receive No. 2 as volleyball seeds are announced

By Gregory A. Scibelli

gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM - Strength of schedule caused Agawam to get slightly edged out as the number one seed in the Western Massachusetts Volleyball Tournament, which is set to begin with preliminary round games on Thursday, May 26.

The seedings meeting was held on Tuesday morning at Agawam High School, and Westfield was awarded the top seed with a 15-3 record. The Bombers had a slight advantage in the strength of schedule situation under the Walker Rating system.

The system gives points for overall winning percentage, strength of schedule, and records versus qualifying teams in the tournament.

Westfield had a 116.11 overall rating, edging out Agawam by just .08 at 116.03. As a result, Agawam and Westfield can only meet in the finals of the tournament. The two split games this season.

Central, which came out of nowhere to have an excellent season at 19-1, was seeded third, losing points to Agawam and Westfield due to their weaker schedule.

The Minnechaug Regional High School volleyball team received the number six seed. The Falcons had a 10-8 record and was among three teams with that same record. But their other two Walker ratings helped them get their seed.

Coming in seventh is Ludlow High School, also at 10-8.

Holyoke was originally seeded number nine, but a clarification in Holyoke's reported 11-7 record was changed to 12-6. The result allowed Holyoke to leapfrog East

Longmeadow and take the number eight seed, making East Longmeadow number nine.

Making the tournament for the first time this season is Southwick Regional School.

The Rams are a second-year program and played just 12 games this season. At the end of the season, Southwick defeated Belchertown and Ware to run their record to 7-5 and earn the final spot in the tournament.

The tournament's first round games start on May 26, and as of press time, Minnechaug was scheduled to host No. 11 Sabis at 6:30 p.m. Also playing the same night will be No. 12 Southwick at No. 5 Athol at 6:30 p.m.

With the flipping of seeds, No. 8 Holyoke will now host No. 9 East Longmeadow at 6:30 p.m.

No. 7 Ludlow is not able to play on May 26, and are currently scheduled to play No. 10 Commerce on Friday, May 27 at 6:30 p.m. However, that date may also change as Commerce may have a conflict.

According to Agawam High School Athletic Director David Stratton, scheduling conflicts for playoff games can only include proms and graduations for games to be moved.

According to the brackets released Tuesday, quarterfinals, one of which will be hosted by Agawam, are set for Tuesday, May 31. Semifinals are scheduled for Thursday, June 2, and the finals are scheduled for Monday, June 6 at 6:30 p.m. at Holyoke Community College.

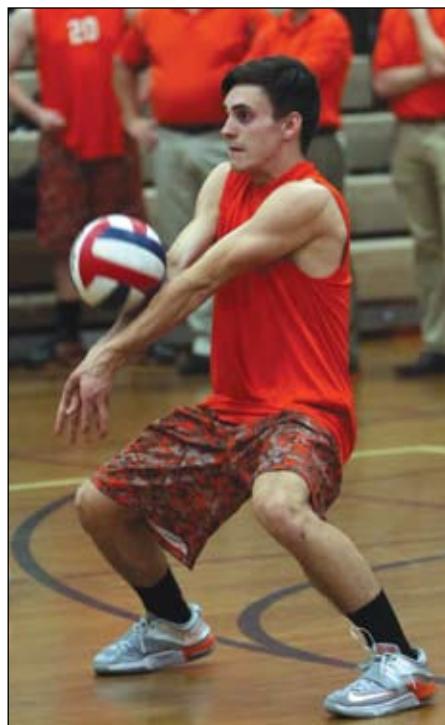
For more information or updated brackets, go to www.miaa.net.

Sports

VOLLEYBALL ■ from page 12

nechaug tied it on a Berkeley tip. The next three points went to Agawam for a 4-1 lead. Basile's kill gave them that three-point lead. Minnechaug fought back and closed to one on several occasions, 4-3 on a Nik Bates' ace, then 5-4 on a long serve; 6-5 on a Berkeley kill; 7-6 on a long serve; 8-7 on a net ball on a serve. Garbecki tied on the next point with an ace. But then Agawam took over. Garbecki's long serve gave Agawam the lead at 9-8 and Basile kill made it two points. Soon after, a Circosta tip made it three points and then to five Hollander's serves. The margin reached seven at 18-11 on an unforced error. The Falcons made a little run and got as close as 21-18, that coming on a Bates kill. Agawam scored four of the next five points, the last coming on a Basile kill, for a 25-19 finals and an even match.

The Falcons looked as though they had gotten their momentum and quickly took the lead. The score went from 4-3 to 9-3, as Bates had three aces in four points to give the Falcons a 9-3 lead. An ace by Mike Zeimbekakis got it to 10 at 16-6. After a



Mark Vilkovoy makes a bump.

Garbecki kill for 17-7, the Brownies began to close the gap. It was 19-12 after a Basile kill. Then the Brownies started a run that would end with Basile serving and Agawam getting back to a point at 19-18. It was back to three at 21-18 after a Budrow ace. They would tie it at 21-21 on an Alan Burlechenko kill. Moments later, a net violation gave Agawam its first lead of the set. A Joe Hendrickson kill gave them a 24-23 lead and then long return in a volley ended the set with Minnechaug winning. The final was 25-23.

Having won the third in such a manner, the momentum was heavily on the side of Agawam. Hendrickson served his team the first eight points and after some back and forth, the Brownies took off on another run that got them to 18-6. Burlechenko was serving, when the score got to 18-6. Minnechaug made a little bit of a run that got the Brownies as close as seven at 20-13 and then again at 23-16 on a Bates ace. A Caleb Hodovanec kill ended the match at 25-16.

Hollander had 34 assists for the Brownies, while it was 145 and 12 kills for Basile and Hodovanec. Leading the way for Min-



Nick Zaporozhchenko tries to get the ball by the Minnechaug blockers.



Garrett Hollander gets an assist on this set. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY SWEETDOG-PHOTOS.COM

nechaug was Garbecki with 26 assists and Basile with nine kills, the win was part of a 3-0 week for Agawam. They also beat West Side, 3-1 and Comp, 3-0 to finish the regular season with a 16-2 record. They were 9-1 in the North division along with Westfield for a tie for the title. The 3-0 week gave them a five game win streak heading into the playoffs. The Brownies' last loss came on May 9th and they have won five in a row since then. The Falcons were 0-3 for the week, losing 3-0 to Westfield. That was followed by the Agawam loss and then the regular season ended with a 3-0 loss to Ludlow. Minnechaug finished 11-8.

Agawam cruising toward playoffs

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – Last week, the Agawam High School girls lacrosse team clinched their ticket to the postseason and picked up their sixth consecutive victory.

The Brownies are now 11-3 for the season and will try to overcome powerhouse teams in Minnechaug and Longmeadow coming up in the postseason. Last week, Agawam defeated South Hadley and Westfield.

The Brownies scored a season-high 14 goals in one frame as they jumped out to a 14-2 lead in the first half and they cruised to the win on the heels of winning most of the faceoffs and playing nearly flawless defense.

With the time running in the second half, Agawam also picked up a 5-0 shutout in the second half.

Julie Serra led the Brownies with five goals and three assists. Not far behind was Katie Martin with five goals and two as-

sists. Nina Bruno had three goals and two assists. Jill Scherpa also added two goals and one assist.

It was the second straight time Agawam defeated South Hadley 19-2. The Brownies achieved the same feat on April 11 on their first game of the season.

Also last week, the Brownies beat Westfield 18-6.

The victory over the Bombers was even more special as it marked the 200th career victory for coach Carla Lemnah-Warner, the longtime coach of Agawam.

In the win, Agawam scored 12 times in the first half and was not in trouble the rest of the way. Serra scored five goals while Izzy Liquori and Martin had three goals each. Emily Oliver and Bruno added two goals each.

The Brownies only scheduled 16 games for the regular season and closed out the campaign on Tuesday against Amherst. The playoff seeds for the Central/Western Massachusetts Tournament will be announced next week.

The Week Ahead

Thursday, May 26

Baseball
Agawam at Amherst 7 p.m.
Girls Tennis
Agawam at South Hadley 4 p.m.

Friday, May 27

Softball
Agawam at West Springfield 4 p.m.

Valley Wheel action: Angels beat Orioles under the lights

WILBRAHAM - The first meeting of the season between the Orioles and Angels proved to be quite a pitcher's duel. Through the first four innings both Josh Catter and Tom Young kept the opposing teams bats quiet. In the bottom of the fifth, the Angels were finally able to manufacture a few runs. Dean reached on an error and stole second. Bartolotta (2-for-3, triple, BB, SB, 4 RBI, run) then got the first hit of the game off Young and drove in Dean. Bartolotta then stole second and scored on a single by Abel. Abel scored on the next play due to an error.

The Angels bats stayed hot in the sixth. After two quick outs, Josh Smith (2-for-4, 2 SB, 2 runs) hit a single, stole second and third. Catter walked, Dean was hit by a pitch and Bartolotta ripped a triple to right. After six innings, the Angels had built a 6-0 lead.

The Oriole's offense came to life in the 8th scoring two runs. Mike Brown

Back-to-back league losses end Brownies' season

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – After a promising start to the regular season, the Agawam High School boys lacrosse team will not be heading to the postseason, losing in the final two games of the regular season to fall to third place in the Valley League.

The two losses also gave Agawam a disappointing 5-13 record for the regular season.

On Monday afternoon, the Brownies suffered the final blow to their playoff chances as they lost to Northampton 13-8. Last Friday, Agawam was edged out by Pope Francis 8-7 in a game they needed to give the Cardinals a third league loss and guarantee Agawam a tie for second place.

Against Northampton at home at School Street Park, the Blue Devils were able to take advantage of some strong starts as they scored six goals in the first quarter and six goals in the third quarter.

Agawam was able to counter with six goals in the first half, and trailed 7-6 at the break.

Northampton's defense then helped out and limited Agawam to just one goal in the third quarter while taking a six-goal lead into the final frame.

The final quarter was largely a defensive frame with Agawam managing the only goal. The Northampton defense really clamped down and kept Agawam from doing any more scoring, and ended Agawam's season.

In the defeat, T.J. Maniscalchi and Matt Lemke had two goals each. Shaun Noonan, Domenic Pellegrino, John Morris, and Preston Kozub also scored single goals. Zach Fiedler had eight saves.

At Spec Pond last Thursday afternoon, the Brownies suffered the final blow to their postseason chances. The Brownies needed to hand Pope Francis a third loss in order to have a chance to tie for second place and qualify.

Agawam had already passed nine losses and could not get a .500 record.

The afternoon did not start out well with Pope Francis grabbing a pair of goals while Agawam was only able to come back with one. Up 2-1, the Cardinals and Brownies played scoreless lacrosse for several minutes leading up to halftime.

Agawam then fell behind by two goals early in the second quarter. They managed to come back in the fourth quarter, but fell behind late 8-7. The Brownies tried feverishly to score the tying goal before time expired, but could not.

In the defeat, Rob Mirolli scored four times and had an assist. Maniscalchi had two goals and Lemke had a goal and two assists. Fielder made 11 saves.

Social media of the first kind.

opened with a single, Tom Young reached on an error, and Randy Cross drove two in with a line drive single. The Halos put the game out of reach in the bottom of the inning, scoring six runs. Cygan (2-for-3, double, SB, 2 RBI, run) and Collingwood (2-for-4, double, RBI, run) hit back-to-back doubles in the inning.

Catter pitched the ninth to earn the complete game win. Catter gave up two runs off of seven hits while striking out 10. Young took the loss, but pitched well. He threw six innings, striking out 13, giving up four hits and six runs. Abel (1-for-3, BB, RBI, 2R) and Lustila (1-for-4, run) also added a hit a piece for the Angels. Offensively for the Orioles, Mike Brown led the way going 2-for-3. Randy Cross went 1-for-3 with two runs batted in. Jim Nason, Tom Cirelli and Gabriel Colon each had a hit a piece.

Other scores:
Twins 21 Tigers 9
Athletics 16 Cubs 11

Sports

SOFTBALL ■ from page 12

against the Golden Eagles.

On offense, Madeline Caci (4-for-5, run scored, RBI), Sierra Cavanaugh (3-for-4, two runs scored, to RBIs) and McCord (2-for-4, two runs scored, two RBIs) were the stars.

Against Easthampton, Savannah Cavanaugh was 2-for-3 with two doubles, two RBIs and a run scored. Kelsey Kokosa had two hits and two runs scored, while Sablak had a hit and three RBIs.

For Agawam, Wheeler pitched her first no-hitter of the season and third of her career in a 4-0 win over East Longmeadow.

She finished with six strikeouts and

did not issue a walk. The only East Longmeadow runner came in the fourth inning, reaching on an error.

Sierra Kruser picked up two hits, including a triple, and had an RBI for the Lady Brownies. Gianna Perella added a hit and two RBIs.

Wheeler then tossed her second no-hitter of the season in a rain-shortened 2-0 victory over Belchertown.

This time, she finished with seven strikeouts in the five-inning affair.

Agawam scored its lone runs of the contest of the second inning when Emily Fountain drove in one and Sam Stratton had the other.



Maria Moccio throws a laser to first for an out.



Katie Grasso slides into third base. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Legals

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758

Docket No. HD16P0857EA

Estate of: Roberta Doering

Date of Death: 03/20/2016

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Appointment of Personal Representative

has been filed by **Andrea Drozda** of Agawam MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Andrea Drozda** of Agawam MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/14/2016.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without

further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: May 19, 2016

Suzanne T. Seguin

Register of Probate

5/26/16

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758

Docket No. HD16C0092CA

In the matter of:

Anastasiya Vyacheslavovna Botnaru

Of: Agawam, MA
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

To all persons interested in petition described:

A petition has been presented by **Anastasiya V Botnaru** requesting that: **Anastasiya Vyacheslavovna Botnaru** be allowed to change his/her/their name as follows:

Anastasiya Pagan

If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney must file a written appearance in said Court at: Springfield on or before ten o'clock in the morning (10:00 a.m.) on: 06/16/2016

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: May 17, 2016

Suzanne T. Seguin

Register of Probate

5/26/16

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758

Docket No. HD16C0092CA

In the matter of:
Christopher Michael O'Connor

Of: Agawam, MA
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

To all persons interested in petition described:

A petition has been presented by **Christopher M. O'Connor** requesting that: **Christopher Michael O'Connor** be allowed to change his/her/their name as follows:

Christopher Ryan Durling

If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney must file a written appearance in said Court at: Springfield on or before ten o'clock in the morning (10:00 a.m.) on: 06/16/2016

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: May 17, 2016

Suzanne T. Seguin

Register of Probate

5/26/16

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling).

Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands.

Thank you.

LEGAL NOTICE – PUBLIC HEARING – AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

The Agawam City Council will conduct a public hearing on **Monday, June 20, 2016, at 7:00pm**, at a Regular Meeting of the Agawam City Council, at the Roberta G. Doering School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA on the proposed Annual Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2017 as submitted to the City Council by the Mayor on May 12, 2016. The Annual Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2017 is available for public inspection at the City Clerk's Office, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA between the hours of 8:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday. The Annual Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2017 is also available at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA and the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA.

BY ORDER OF: James P. Cichetti City Council President

CHART OF APPROPRIATIONS FISCAL YEAR 2017 BUDGET

DEPARTMENT	Pesonnel Services	Purchased Services	Supplies	Capital Outlay	TOTAL
GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET					
Council	\$164,111	\$15,600	\$500	\$0	\$180,211
Mayor	\$320,820	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$322,320
Administrative Building	\$26,521	\$203,575	\$0	\$0	\$230,096
Law Department	\$68,650	\$68,500	\$0	\$0	\$137,150
Auditor	\$152,880	\$800	\$0	\$0	\$153,680
Clerk/Elections	\$222,641	\$3,155	\$0	\$0	\$225,796
Assessor	\$184,562	\$70,000	\$0	\$0	\$254,562
IT Department	\$170,320	\$84,006	\$0	\$17,000	\$271,326
Treasurer-Collector	\$322,738	\$29,500	\$0	\$4,800	\$357,038
Police Department	\$5,074,936	\$337,674	\$82,476	\$124,600	\$5,619,686
Fire Department	\$3,811,081	\$120,800	\$47,750	\$0	\$3,979,631
Inspection Services	\$288,444	\$330	\$0	\$0	\$288,774
Health Department	\$689,854	\$5,100	\$2,750	\$0	\$697,704
Community Development	\$165,120	\$570	\$0	\$0	\$165,690
Agawam Public Library	\$909,752	\$6,800	\$150,452	\$0	\$1,067,004
Parks & Recreation	\$173,666	\$36,705	\$1,000	\$4,100	\$215,471
Council on Aging	\$300,448	\$87,600	\$0	\$0	\$388,048
Public Works Administration	\$108,942	\$3,800	\$50	\$0	\$112,792
Highway & Grounds	\$1,487,164	\$316,580	\$411,075	\$0	\$2,214,819
Motor Vehicle Maintenance	\$139,405	\$63,815	\$474,620	\$0	\$677,840
Engineering	\$189,491	\$18,292	\$1,200	\$0	\$208,983
Building Maintenance	\$2,247,746	\$1,699,757	\$145,522	\$0	\$4,093,025
Agawam Public Schools					\$42,365,720
Emergency Management	\$19,700	\$16,500	\$0	\$0	\$36,200
Line Items					\$23,598,004
TOTAL – GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET					
					\$87,861,570
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET					
					\$975,987
TOTAL GENERAL FUND					
SELF SUSTAINING DEPARTMENTS					
Agawam Municipal Golf Course	\$293,542	\$135,800	\$146,400	\$0	\$575,742
Agawam Municipal Golf Course Equipment					\$0
Agawam Municipal Golf Course Total					
Water Department	\$944,687	\$3,553,024	\$369,083	\$0	\$4,866,794
Water Capital Improvement Budget					\$69,117
Water Total					
Wastewater Department	\$578,022	\$2,767,421	\$57,705	\$0	\$3,403,148
Wastewater Capital Improvement Budget					\$47,174
Wastewater Total					
TOTAL – SELF SUSTAINING DEPARTMENTS					
TOTAL – GENERAL FUND AND SELF SUSTAINING DEPARTMENTS					
5/26,6/2/16					\$8,961,975
					\$97,799,532

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x235.

Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 15 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit www.turley.com for more information.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Agawam Public Schools Special Education Files from the 2008-2009 school year will be destroyed after June 17, 2016. Any person (s) who has graduated, moved or has been released from Special Education during the 2008-2009 may pick up their file at the Special Education Office located at 760 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA 01001 between the hours of 8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. **PRIOR TO JUNE 17, 2016.** Should you have any questions or require further information, please call (413) 726-1651 or email jkerr@agawampublicschools.org

Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, May 27

2016 WORLD'S KIELBASA FESTIVAL AND INTERNATIONAL FAIR today from 4-11 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; and Monday from noon to 9 p.m. at the Young & Stroh Building, Coliseum and outdoor area on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. General admission, \$10; five-day pass, \$35; children 12 and under free with paid adult; seniors, \$3; students, \$5 with identification.

Saturday, May 28

BANDATHON, A DAYLONG MUSIC FESTIVAL hosted by the Agawam High School Band Parents Association takes place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at School Street Park in Agawam. No admission or parking fee, but donations accepted. The day's events will also include the dedication of the band shell in honor of Darcy Davis, retired Agawam High School band director.

Monday, May 30

AGAWAM'S MEMORIAL DAY PARADE begins at 10 a.m. at Agawam Town Hall and will continue down Main Street to Veterans Green at Main and School streets with a ceremony to follow.

THE AGAWAM HISTORICAL AND FIREHOUSE MUSEUM at 35 Elm St., Agawam will be open from noon to 3 p.m. and will feature a special exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Eastern States Exhibition. For more information, visit www.agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com or follow on Facebook.

Wednesday, June 1

WEST OF THE RIVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE will present "Wicked Wednesday" from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Storowton Tavern, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield.

Free for Chamber members, \$10 for non-members, and open to all. Non-members must pay at the door. For more information contact the Chamber at 413-426-3880 or info@westoftheriverchamber.com.

Thursday, June 2

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD SUMMER CONCERT SERIES will feature Sarah the Fiddler from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Storowton Village Green, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission is free.

THE CRAA ARABIAN SUMMER HORSE SHOW takes place today through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Coliseum on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission is free.

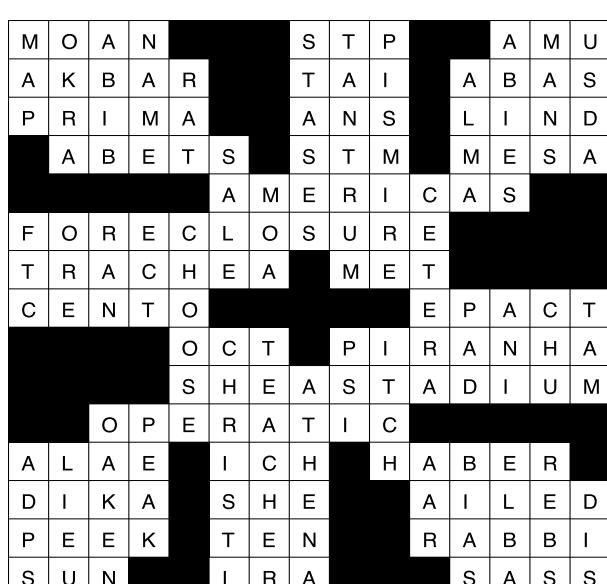
Agawam Senior Center

Lunch Menu

Monday, May 30: Memorial Day. Senior Center closed.
Tuesday, May 31: Cream of broccoli soup, Caesar salad topped with grilled chicken, pudding.
Wednesday, June 1: Shepherd's pie, garden salad, diced pears.
Thursday, June 2: Roast chicken marsala, mashed potatoes, dilled carrots, baked good.
Friday, June 3: Seafood casserole, tomato and cucumber salad, pudding.

Calendar of Events

Monday, May 30: Memorial Day. Senior Center closed.
Tuesday, May 31: 9 a.m., exercise, knitting class, sewing class; 9:30 a.m., shuffleboard meets at St. John's field; 10 a.m., chair exercise, Computer Tech Club meets; 12:30 p.m., mah jongg, movie ("McFarland USA"), ladies billiards; 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 3 p.m., COA meeting; 4:30 p.m., yoga; 6 p.m., beginner line dance; 6:30 p.m., evening sewing class.
Wednesday, June 1: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 10 a.m., Friends meeting; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., Scrabble, ballroom lessons, the art of balloon making (Sewing Room); 1:30 p.m., Golden Age Chapter 2 meeting; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.
Thursday, June 2: 9:30 a.m., quilting; 10 a.m., line dancing; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., pitch, open art; 2 p.m., Melody Band practice; 6:30 p.m., pitch, evening line dancing.
Friday, June 3: 8 a.m., yoga; 9:15 a.m., all media art class; 10 a.m., tai chi; noon, canasta; 1 p.m., pitch, cribbage.



Friday, June 3

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL is hosting a benefit dinner dance at Crestview Country Club from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. Jeff Gavioli and his 18-piece big band will provide the music. \$45 per person. For further information, contact Maryellen Sullivan at 413-575-1759 or rudee38@comcast.net.

ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTER of Western Mass, Inc. chicken cacciatore dinner at 6 p.m., 56 Margaret St., Springfield. Reservations on first-come, first-served basis. Tickets are \$15 for members; \$18 for non-members. Must be paid in advance. Call Nancy at 413-827-9350.

STYLIST TONY ISHAM will present "WOW — Women or What?" an evening of entertainment featuring female impersonators at Chez Josef in Agawam. Proceeds to benefit Open Pantry. Tickets are \$45 each; table of 10 for \$400. For tickets, contact Lynne Goldberg at 413-530-8453 or Kim Kennedy of Open Pantry at 413-746-6241.

Saturday, June 4

THE RUBBER STAMP & PAPER ARTS FESTIVAL takes place today from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. \$8 ticket for adults good both days; Sunday, \$6; free for children 11 and under. Discount ticket info available at heirloompro.com.

THE ANTIQUES & MODERN FIREARMS SHOW takes place today from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Young Building on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. \$12 for adults; free for children under 12 with parent/guardian. Discount coupon at northeastgunshows.com.

Sunday, June 5

THE SOUTHWICK GRANVILLE CROP HUNGER WALK at Southwick Congregational Church, 488 College Highway. Registration at noon followed by the walk at 1 p.m. To register, contact Clayton Cigal Jr. at cletocigal@yahoo.com or Marie Daniels at 413-562-1050.

Tuesday, June 7

AGAWAM'S CAPTAIN CHARLES LEONARD HOUSE native Asparagus Supper, with proceeds to be used for the preservation of the local landmark. Seatings at 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. A donation of \$15 per meal suggested for

adults, \$5 for children ages 6-12. No charge for children under 6. Reservations required; take-out dinners available. For tickets, call 413-786-9421 or visit E. Cecchi Farms, 1131 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

Wednesday, June 8

CHUCK KLING, SUFFIELD RESIDENT AND PHOTOGRAPHER, will present a slide show on his trip to Antarctica at 7 p.m., at Kent Memorial Library. To register, visit www.suffield-library.org, call 860-668-3896 or stop by the library at 61 Fyler Place, Suffield.

FRIENDS OF THE AGAWAM PUBLIC LIBRARY Juried 3D Art Object Show on display today through Saturday at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. Included will be works of sculpture, both traditional and contemporary; craft objects made out of jewelry, metal, glass, fabric, basket and gourd; and wall hanging 3D art. Free and open to the public.

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

CONNECTICUT MORGAN OPEN HORSE SHOW today through Saturday with sessions at 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. in the Coliseum on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Free admission.

Thursday, June 9

AUTHOR TALK AT KENT MEMORIAL LIBRARY, 61 Fyler Place, Suffield, will feature Karl Cicito and Alan Cohen, authors of "100: The 100-Year Journey of a Baseball Journeyman, Mike Sandlock." Register online at www.suffield-library.org, by phone at 860-668-3896 or at the library.

WEST OF THE RIVER CHAMBER SEMINAR on how to grow your business online. This free workshop will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the West Springfield Public Library, 200 Park St. To register, call 413-426-3880 or email info@westoftheriverchamber.com.

Saturday, June 11

A STRAWBERRY SUPPER at First Congregational Church of Granby, 219 North Granby Road, Granby, Conn. with sittings at 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. \$12 for adults; \$7 for children under 12. For reservations, call the church at 860-653-4537.

Announce Your Recent Engagement or Wedding

IN THE SUMMER 2016 ISSUE OF THE

Bridal GUIDE

Bridal GUIDE Winter / Spring 2016

Send your photo and wedding date to:
BRIDAL GUIDE, Attention: Beth Baker, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or e-mail bbaker@turley.com and be sure to put Bridal Photo in subject line.

If you would like your photos returned please include a self-addressed stamped envelope. Photo must be received by July 1, 2016.

Kristy Ore Piechota & Alex Piechota
Silverdale, Washington
May 22, 2015

Please include this information with photo:

Name of Bride: _____

Bride's Residence: _____

Name of Groom: _____

Groom's Residence: _____

Date of Wedding: _____

Ashley Ricciardi & Carlo Camerota
Wilbraham/Hampden
Sept. 3, 2016

Buzzin' from Town to Town

Classifieds

Turley Publications' Community Marketplace • www.turley.com • Call us toll free at 1-800-824-6548**For Sale**

ANTIQUE AND PERIOD chairs - Restored with new woven seats - Many styles and weaves available. Call (413)267-9680.

KILL BED BUGS! Buy Harris Bed Bug Killers/KIT Complete Treatment System. Available: Hardware Stores, The Home Depot, homedepot.com

QUEEN PILLOWTOP MATTRESS set, brand new, still in plastic. \$150. Call Justin for details (413)386-7197.

Estate Sale

115 SPENCER ST., Agawam Sat. May 28- Sunday, May 29 9am-3pm. Everything must go! Household, furniture, treadmill, baby items, riding mower

60 PARK AVENUE, South Hadley, May 28-29, 9-4. Tools, furniture, toys, housewares.

ENTIRE HOUSE MUST GO! 141 Pondview Dr., Ludlow, Sun-Mon 5/29- 5/30. Woman's apparel, kitchen contents, linens, sewing supplies, many holiday decorations, some furniture, handmade porcelain dolls, and many more. High quality office furniture. No reasonable offer refused.

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND, Saturday-Monday, 9a.m.-3p.m. at 65 George St. Holyoke, MA. 2 bedroom sets, 10 pc diningroom set, livingroom set, kitchen contents, new stainless pots & pans, collectibles, tools, and much more.

Tag Sale

103 MOUNTAIN VIEW, South Hadley, 5/28-5/29, 8-4. American Girl, X-Box, daybed w/ trundle, 1967 Singer, black fencing, catering items, etc.

DOWN SIZING TAG sale. 67 Alden St., Ludlow May 27, 28, 29 9am-2pm Rain or shine

TAG SALE/ COLLECTIBLES Dept. 56 "Dickens Village", Charming Tails by Dean Griff, Merrymakers (Monks) by Dept. 56, paintings, pottery, misc. tag sale items. June 3-4, 235 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, MA 9am-3pm Raindate June 5

Antiques

EASY STREET ANTIQUES. Buying one item or entire estates. Buying antique & vintage glassware, pottery, Hummels, jewelry, coins, watches, military, toys, Legos, hunting, fishing, stringed instruments, tools & more. Call today. www.ezstreetantiques.com or (413)626-8603.

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LOG LENGTH FIREWOOD for sale. 7-8 cords delivered. \$750.00 delivered locally. Pricing subject to change. Seasoned firewood loose or stacked on pallets and delivered.

Also specialize in Heat Treatment Certified Kiln Dried bundled firewood, kindling and grilling wood perfect for campfires and brick oven restaurants. Wholesale inquiries welcome. Call 1-800-373-4500

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Flea Market

YANKEE FLEA MARKET 1311 Park Street (Rt. 20) Palmer, MA 01069 Over 130 vendors Over 8,500 Square feet 6 days a week Tues-Sat 10-5, Sunday 11-5 Year round, all indoor Antiques, Collectibles, Household furnishings and more! Vendors Welcome, Apply within Always buying, Free estimates! (413)283-4910 Free Parking Free Admission

Miscellaneous

A PLACE FOR MOM. The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is free/ no obligation. Call (800)417-0524.

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Wanted

OLD CARPENTER TOOLS wanted. Planes, chisels, saws, levels, etc. Call Ken 413-433-2195. Keep your vintage tools working and get MONEY.



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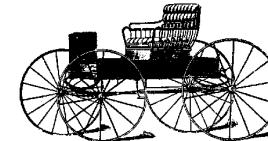
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"The Fan Dancer," watercolor
Dianna Robinson of Feeding Hills

"This is a pattern for a quilt I always liked," Robinson said. "I'm not a quilter, so I transferred it to a painting." Robinson has been painting for four years, as a member of the Open Art class at the Agawam Senior Center, and this is her biggest work yet.



"Beach Door," ink and watercolor
Pauline Spanilo of Agawam

"When I saw it, I just loved it," Spanilo said of the magazine photo on which her painting is based. "It reminded me of the '50s." Spanilo has been painting for six years, having started with the Open Art class. She finds the hobby "very relaxing."



"Archie," watercolor
"Blue Mountain Lake, N.Y.," watercolor
"Afternoon at the Beach," pastel
Nancy Edwards of Agawam

"I've played around with art all my life," said Edwards. "In high school, I took art class. I came home with a picture my family said was a neat tomato — I said it was an apple." Edwards has been attending art classes at the Agawam Senior Center since before the new facility was built. She finds inspiration in her own life: "Archie" is based on a favorite pet of that name; "Blue Mountain Lake," on a treasured vacation spot in the Adirondacks.



From left, Christi Beck, Jackie Morgan and Chris Zaczynski look at artworks on display Thursday at the Agawam Senior Center. The exhibit, featuring works by members of the Senior Center's weekly drop-in art class, runs through the end of the month at 945 Main St., Agawam. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY



Members of the Open Art class gather in front of the gallery display with their teacher, Gloria McLellan, seated, second from right. All are welcome to drop in for the weekly class for a \$3 fee; classes will start again in September.



"Ship Graveyard" by Robert McCollum.



Floral still life by Jackie Morgan.

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Look Park Garden House – Gazebo, Pine Theater and Sanctuary for wedding receptions and ceremonies, meetings, banquets and events for up to 170 people. 300 North Main Street, Rt. 9, Florence, MA. 413-584-2220. www.lookpark.org.

Magic Wings Butterfly & Conservatory Gardens – You and your guests will be surrounded by 4,000 beautiful butterflies in a tropical setting anytime of the year! Accommodations for up to 100 for your ceremony and reception. All inclusive wedding packages available. We also host pre-wedding and rehearsal dinner parties. 281 Greenfield Rd., Scenic Routes 5 & 10, South Deerfield, MA. 413-665-2805. www.magicwings.com.

Publick House Historic Inn & Country Lodge – We have been creating picturesque New England weddings for over 230 years. Visit us online at www.publickhouse.com or call 508-347-3313.

Sheraton Springfield – One Monarch Place. Your Weekend Wedding Destination; rehearsal dinner, wedding and post nuptial brunch all in the comfort of one location. Newly renovated, atrium style hotel with ballroom seating for up to 500 guests. Complimentary room for the Bride & Groom, Rolls Royce, Centerpieces and Parking included in all packages. Contact Kristen Muszynski, your personal wedding consultant at 413-263-2117 or kmuszynski@sheratonspringfield.com to set up your tour today!

Storrorwton Tavern – Storrorwton Tavern & Carriage House is a landmark area facility located on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition. The operators of the facility, the Calvanese family, have over 45 years of hospitality experience. They offer beautifully landscaped grounds, terraced patios and an upscale banquet facility that can serve 400 guests. For more information please visit www.storrorwton-tavern.com. We are located at 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield, MA 01089. 413.732.4188. info@storrorwton.com.

Union Station – Northampton's Union Station was designed by American architect H. H. Richardson in 1886. This historic train depot has been extensively renovated to contain one of the most elegant and unique banquet facilities in all of New England. The Grand Ballroom at Union Station. www.unionstationbanquets.com.

The Wherhouse? – Located downtown in historic Holyoke. The most unusual and interesting banquet function facility you've ever seen! Call today for your appointment, 413-534-3039. Visit us online at www.the-wherhouse.com.

BEAUTY & HEALTH

Brooks & Butterfield THE • DAY • SPA – Relaxed. Beautiful. Confident. Voted the Best Day Spa 9 years in a row. 140 Main Street, Northampton. 413-586-0366. www.brooksandbutterfield.com.

CAKES

Atkins Farms Country Market – For over 20 years, our cakes have been made from scratch, and we use only the highest quality ingredients. Decorated with beautifully hand crafted frosting flowers and topped with probably the best butter cream icing you'll taste anywhere. Our cake has had rave reviews from our customers from all around the Pioneer Valley where we are also well renowned for our quality baked goods. 253-9528. www.atkinsfarms.com.

CAKES

Moore Cakes – Beautifully designed and sinfully delicious cakes since 1981. Contact Karen Moore at karenmoorecakes@yahoo.com, 413-436-7350. 47 Hillside Ave., Warren, MA. www.mooreyummymcakes.com.

CATERERS

UMass Catering – Premier caterer serving the Pioneer Valley with beautiful views in the heart of the UMass Amherst Campus. 413-577-1234. Visit us online at www.umass.edu/catering.

Main St. Deli – Specializing in intimate Wedding or Baby Showers in our beautiful Carriage House room. Let us cater your special event in our house or choice of venue. Reasonably priced. 141 Main St., Agawam. 413-821-9881, ask for Joanne. www.mainst-deli.com.

FLORISTS

Atkins Farms Country Market – Atkins Flower Shop is managed by three full-time experienced floral designers to assist you in planning the wedding of your dreams. You can be assured of receiving the excellent service and quality products from the floral department that you have come to expect from Atkins. Their work is beautiful and expertly done and offered to you at prices that are surprisingly reasonable. 253-9528. www.atkinsfarms.com.

Otto Florist & Gifts – Traditional or contemporary, elegant or rustic our experienced designers work within your budget to create the wedding of your dreams! Call 413-967-5381 for an appointment. 7 North St., Ware.

Sixteen Acres Garden Center – The Floral Shop at Sixteen Acres Garden Center has been servicing Springfield for over 50 years. Our professional staff members aim to provide a service that is unique and tailored to suit individual needs. We provide a complete, high quality range of floral products at competitive prices. The Floral Shop at Sixteen Acres Garden Center offers flowers that are fresh daily and we take great pride in our work. We have arrangements for all different occasions and all budgets. For professional and experienced service please contact us at 413-783-5883. Located at 1359 Wilbraham Rd., Springfield, MA. Visit us on the web at www.16acresgardencenter.com.

JEWELERS

Silverscape Designs – was founded by Denis Perlman over 30 years ago and is noted for its commitment to showcasing the work of the finest in American handcrafted jewelry & gifts. Silverscape also specializes in custom designs for that perfect piece of jewelry. Silverscape Designs is located at One King St. in Northampton, MA. www.silverscapedesigns.com.

Stevens Jewelers & Diamond Gallery – A family operated company with wholesale and retail operations. Buying gold, silver and diamonds, jewelry & watch repair, custom design & remounts. Personalized engraving, appraisals. Visit us at our NEW location 1501 Elm St., West Springfield, MA. 413-731-9800.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Karen Geaghan Photography – My life, my passion, my love! Specializing in Life Cycle Photography: Weddings, Maternity, Newborn, Children & Families. Doing small things with great love because in the end I believe it's the little things that count the most. Clients become family! Visit me at www.karengeaghanphotos.com or call 413-596-2227 or 537-3001. I would LOVE to hear from you!

RENTALS

Michael's Party Rentals – We have a tent for your event and so much more. With over 15 years of experience, Michael's is your one stop shop for all your rental needs. From tents, tables and chairs to glassware and linens we have you covered for any occasion. Call us today for a quote 413-589-7368 or visit us on the web at michaelspartyrentals.com.